**Columbia River Regional Forum**

**System Configuration Team Meeting**

**October 17, 2019**

**DRAFT**

Representatives of Corps, OR, WA, BPA, NOAA, Umatilla/CRITFC, and others participated in today’s SCT meeting facilitated by Blane Bellerud, NOAA and chaired by Andrew Traylor, Corps. See the last page of these minutes for a list of attendees at today’s meeting.

1. Minutes:

The January-July minutes are approved pending any changes from Charles Morrill, WA, and Ian Chane, Corps. Ian will send out revised minutes today and members will have one week to make any necessary changes.

2. FY19 CRFM Updates:

Ian Chane, Corps, updated SCT on FY19 CRFM items. FY19’s budget was ~$48M. This included carry-in from FY18 and from lamprey. In FY19, $42.5M was obligated. This left some carry-in for FY20. Ian highlighted a few end-of-year updates:

* The Corps did find funding for **Line 15 McNary Top Spill Weir (TSW) Permanence** (~ $1.6 M)
* **Line 51, the McNary Steelhead Overshoot** was a regional priority, and the Corps was able to find funding for it as well. There has been discussion that some people may want to see a year two of this study pending what is seen in spring and fall. **Ricardo and Alice will work together on a budget, if it does move forward.**
* **Line 56, Sheepy Island (CATE - Constructed Islands)**, was de-obligated due to a change in the scope during active construction (less material needed). There will be some carry over to FY20.
* **Line 43 Bonneville Powerhouse 2 Fish Guidance Efficiency** was deferred. Only $149K was obligated but Ian reported that most of the plans and specs were completed in FY19.

3. FY20 CRFM Updates:

The PBud for this year is $21.6 million for all of CRFM including the Willamette, the Columbia, and lamprey. The budget calls for no new construction in FY20 and no work that would lead to new construction. These are new budget restrictions in FY20 that have not been seen in the past. The Willamette will have $12.6M. The Corps will ask for work plan funding of 12.6M for lamprey this year. However, work plans cannot be applied for until the budget is finalized. This could restrict the amount of time the Corps has to complete the work, if the budget is not approved until it normally is in February or March. The Corps is looking at the PBud and will try to see if it can spread the $21.6 to the items in the ranking sheet so that progress can be maintained on the projects. This will have to go through Corps headquarters. Ian is hopeful that by next month’s meeting, the group will be able to start ranking and seeing where the funding is going.

**Line 33 Columbia River System Operations (CRSO) EIS** – Is hard to track because a lot of the costs associated with this program are labor. The FY20 PBud is $3M, though likely more will be needed.

**Line 53 FCRPS Court Ordered Spill Evaluation** – is no longer required because the signed spill agreement supersedes it. It is also included in the 2019 BiOp. The item was specific to court-ordered spill. This item had a $4.7M need when the budget was identified 2 years ago and the Corps would like to reallocate this. Tom Lorz, Umatilla/CRITFC, noted that if the 125 spill agreement is reached for spring spill this year, there may be some desire in the region for evaluation on the effect on juveniles so there may be some pushback if the money is moved.

**Line 54—** **LGR Surface Passage Modifications** – was deferred. The Corps would like to reallocate the $100k from this project to another project.

**Line 11 John Day Mitigation** – usually gets $100k in funding to keep it moving. Right now, there is no funding for it. After next year, it will likely switch from CRFM funding to something else because of a standing action. Erick Van Dyke said he thinks people think it is unclear what this project is. Blane replied that it is a long-standing study. Tom Lorz replied to Erick saying after the construction of John Day there was a need for additional fish. Most have been produced at Ringald but the tribes think the allocation is not adequate. There is debate about the number and where the production would be moved to. **Tom said he would be happy to have his John Day mitigation person put together an update for SCT. Erick said he would like that.**

**Line 7 The Dalles East Fish Ladder Emergency Auxiliary Water Supply** – is in closeout. Any additional testing (beyond what was already budgeted for) would require additional funding. This item did not get any PBud funding.

**Line 15—McNary Top Spill Weir (TSW) Permanence** – This project has been deferred to FY21. It is a project that the Corps will be trying to reallocate funding to. FY20 costs will be to solicit contract for an early FY21 award.

**Line 17 Lower Monumental Outfall Primary Bypass Pipe Expansion Joint Deficiency Correction** – Ian and Tom both noted that this project is critical. There is no PBud funding right now for this item but Ian will try to find some funding for it.

**Line 52 Lower Granite and Little Goose Deep Spill vs. RSW summer subyearlings** – This item does not have funding. Tom will talk to FDDRWG, to get the funding discussions started.

4. Other:

Some funding will be reallocated from projects that were de-obligated. Ian should have that worked out in the next week or so. The highlighted cells in the October FY20 Excel sheet are projects the Corps would like to find funding for. Those are the cells that will receive funding during reallocation. However, there still may not be enough funding to fill all of those capabilities. The region will need to discuss its priorities. If Ian gets approval for reallocation, he will email SCT.

5. Next SCT:

The next SCT will be the third Thursday in November (*note: as of the time of these notes, the November SCT had been canceled. The next meeting will be December 19, 2019*).

6. Today’s Attendees:

Blane Bellerud, NOAA

Brad Eppard, COE

Jacob Macdonald, Corps

Leah Sullivan, BPA

Marvin Shutters, XX

Scott Bettin, BPA

Ian Chane, Corps

Leslie Bach, NPCC

Charles Morrill, WA

Erick Van Dyke, OR

Melissa Haskin, BPA (CONTR)

Alice Roberts, Corps (filling in for Margie McGill through November)

Tom Lorz, Umatilla/CRITFC

Christine Petersen, BPA

Shane Scott, PPC

Ricardo Walker, Corps

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